



City County of Butte Silver-Bow COMPREHENSIVE PARK, TRAILS AND OPEN SPACE PLAN

Technical Advisory Committee Meeting #1

January 16, 2008

2:00 PM – 3:30 PM

155 W Granite Street (County Courthouse)

MEETING SUMMARY

The first meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee for the Park, Trail and Open Space Plan, held on January 16, 2008 included the following participants:

Shelly Jones, sitting in for Paul Babb, Chief Executive

Tom Malloy, Reclamation Manager

Bob McCarthy, City Attorney

Cindy McIlveen, Planning

Bob Rowling, Park Superintendent

John VanDaveer, Public Works Director

Laurie Casey, Planning

Jocelyn Dodge, Park and Recreation Board Chair

Also in attendance, Lauren Schmitt, project director and Ryan Mottau, project manager, from the City-County's selected consulting firm Moore Iacofano Goltsman (MIG).

The consulting team presented an outline of the planning process designed for Butte-Silver Bow, explained the key public input that will be a part of this process and laid out the role of the Technical Advisory Committee throughout this process. The role of the TAC includes fact checking the technical details of planning documents, advising the team about community and political issues during the process and connecting the effort to the many departments and other projects that are already in process. A diagram of the planning process is provided below for reference.



Following the brief presentation the meeting proceeded through a series of questions intended to inform the planning team about Butte-Silver Bow and to identify as many planning issues as possible. This discussion is summarize below.

Outcomes and Expectations

- Need to have a “living document” that sets up a system to regularly review progress and adjust to new situations
- Realistic attainable goals
- Identify the needs and priorities of the community

Strengths and Opportunities

- This community is capable of great things when motivated
- High level of volunteerism
- Community has been very supportive of schools
- Superfund projects are creating many new potential park and open space sites
- Youth programs are very strong
- Historical value of sites throughout the county
- Access to public lands, particularly national forest lands
- Government support for enhancing parks and recreation

Challenges and Issues

- Operations and maintenance is difficult and expensive due to hard summers and hard winters
- Sustaining the developments funded by Superfund projects
- Residents outside of Butte are paying for services with much of the benefit occurring in Butte
- Schools rely on City-County parks for sports facilities
- Getting wide community buy-in will be a challenge
- Historically a company town and facilities were provided and maintained at little or no cost

Needs and Priorities

- Education of the public and decision makers about the costs and benefits of parks and recreation
- Operations and maintenance is a high priority
- Additional walking trails
- Outdoor pool facility
- Completing projects
- Effective use of volunteers